

## Message Text

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65-60

ACTION COA-01

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-10 L-02 DLOS-05 OES-05 EB-07

COME-00 PM-03 NSC-05 CG-00 DOTE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 JUSE-00

FMC-02 SS-15 AGR-10 /105 W  
----- 046234

R 051711Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5201

INFO COMICEDEFOR

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

URDTC/AMEMBASSY LONDON 0826

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USNATO 1104

USUN 0425

UNCLAS REYKJAVIK 0239

3.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, EFIS, IC

SUBJECT: GOI SKETCHES PLANS FOR 200-MILE FISHERIES ZONE

REF: REYKJAVIK 0230

1. IN SEPARATE STATEMENTS YESTERDAY, TOP GOI OFFICIALS DISCUSSED PUBLICLY FOR FIRST TIME SOME DETAILS OF ICELAND'S PLANNING RELATED TO EXTENSION OF FISHERIES LIMITS TO 200 MILES THIS YEAR.

2. IN RESPONSE TO PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION, PM GEIR HALLGRIMSSON EMPHASIZED THAT POLITICAL DECISION HAD BEEN MADE TO EXPAND FISHERIES JURISDICTION IN 1975, AND THAT THIS WOULD OCCUR REGARDLESS OF OUTCOME OF  
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GENEVA LOS SESSION. HE ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT EXTEN-

SION WOULD NOT TAKE PLACE BEFORE MAY 10 (DATE GENEVA MEETING ENDS), BUT WOULD PROBABLY OCCUR BETWEEN THAT DATE AND NOVEMBER 13 (EXPIRATION DATE OF CURRENT FISHERIES AGREEMENT WITH UNITED KINGDOM). HALLGRIMSSON WENT ON TO BRIEFLY MENTION SOME RATIONALE BEHIND GOI PLANS, NOTING THAT, FROM OUTSET, GOI DELEGATION TO LOS HAD STRESSED THAT ICELAND ALONE COULD UTILIZE ENTIRE CATCH FROM WATERS INSIDE 200 MILES, AND HAD MAINTAINED THAT COASTAL STATES HAD AUTHORITY TO DETERMINE FISHING RIGHTS OF OTHER NATIONS WITHIN RESPECTIVE JURISDICTIONS.

3. FOREIGN MINISTER EINAR AGUSTSSON TOLD PRESS THAT EXTENSION TO 200 MILES WOULD BE MORE COMPLICATED THAN ESTABLISHMENT OF 50-MILE ZONE BECAUSE OF NEED TO NEGOTIATE MID-LINES. HE SAID THAT NO FORMAL DISCUSSIONS HAD YET BEEN HELD BETWEEN GOI AND NATIONS THAT WILL BE AFFECTED BY ICELAND'S MOVE, AND HE COULD NOT SAY WHEN SUCH TALKS WOULD START. HE ADDED THAT EVEN IN ABSENCE OF FORMAL DISCUSSIONS, IT WAS OBVIOUS THAT CONSIDERABLE SUPPORT EXISTED FOR 200-MILE CONCEPT AMONG MEMBERS OF UN, NATO, NORDIC COUNCIL, AND OTHER BODIES OF WHICH ICELAND IS MEMBER.

4. JUSTICE (AND COMMERCE) MINISTER OLAFUR JOHANASSON, WHOSE PORTFOLIO INCLUDES COAST GUARD, SAID THAT HIS MINISTRY HAS BEEN STUDYING PROBLEMS OF ENFORCING NEW JURISDICTION. HE CITED EXPECTED AVAILABILITY OF NEW COAST GUARD CUTTER BY MID-MAY IN THIS CONTEXT, BUT SAID THIS ADDITION WOULD STILL NOT GIVE COAST GUARD CAPABILITY TO EFFECTIVELY PATROL AREA. THEREFORE, MINISTRY WAS SERIOUSLY CONSIDERING POSSIBILITY OF STRENGTHENING COAST GUARD AIR ARM. MARTIN

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## Message Attributes

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